

## NOTES ON EMPIDS ADDITIONAL TO COLLIN (1961)

Compiled by Peter J Chandler August 1986

Two species accorded subspecific or varietal status by Collin have been raised to specific rank and seventeen other species have been added to the British list since the publication of the major work on British species by Collin. Further additions in Dolichocephala and Oedalea are also soon to be published.

Drapetis

D. infitalis Collin, described as a sub-species of exilis was raised to specific rank by Chvala (1975). It may be separated as follows:

- |        |  |                         |
|--------|--|-------------------------|
| Male   | Right cercus slightly longer than left cercus and curved before tip. |                         |
| Female | Hind tibiae with conspicuous long pale hairs behind.                 | <u>exilis</u> Meigen    |
| Male   | Right cercus much longer than the left one, almost straight.         |                         |
| Female | Hind tibiae without long hairs behind.                               | <u>infitalis</u> Collin |

Collin (1961) and Chvala (1975) figure the male genitalia. Collin recorded it from two Suffolk localities.

Chersodromia

C. cursitans was added by Smith (1964). It runs in Collin's key to couplet 6 and can be separated from alata Walker (= difficilis Lundbeck of Collin) and speculifera Walker as follows:

1. One pair of vertical bristles; no posthumeral bristles. Wings broad, brown on costal half. Legs shining dark brown; anterior tarsal segments shortened and slightly dilated. Body 1.6 - 2.3 mm. alata Walker
- Two pairs of vertical bristles; a posthumeral bristle present. 2
2. Basal antennal segments, palpi and legs yellowish. Third antennal segment elongate, about half as long as arista. Anterior tarsal segments dilated. Wings broad, clear yellowish. Halteres pale with dusky knobs. 1.8 - 2.3 mm. speculifera Walker
- Basal antennal segments, palpi and legs darkened, the legs dull grey dusted. Third antennal segment shorter, about one quarter length of arista. Anterior tarsal segments elongate. Wings long but narrow, brownish on costal part. Halteres black 1.4 - 2.4 mm. cursitans (Zetterstedt)

Smith (1964) recorded two females of cursitans, taken by Yerbury at Studland, Dorset. It was found on the sandy shore of Loch Leven, 2.vii.1977 by Alan Stubbs.

Tachydromia

Four species have been added to the British list and there is a possibility of others being found. A revised key to the British species is given here based on the works of Chvala (1970, 1973 and 1975), principally his Palaearctic revision (1970).

1. Prothorax between humeri and fore coxae silvery dusted. Radial vein (R2+3) almost straight and broadly separated from costa. 2
- Prothorax without silvery patch, polished black. Radial vein arched towards costa, cell R1 rather narrow. 11
2. Palpi pale yellow, clothed with pale or silvery hairs and black terminal bristle. One notopleural bristle. 3
- Palpi at least brownish yellow, usually dark brown to blackish, with dark or silvery hairs. One or two notopleurals. 4
3. Legs yellowish brown. Wings faintly clouded at tip and along veins, leaving costal margin to end of radial vein (R2+3) and all hind margin hyaline. Male mid femora with shallow excision near base beneath and short apical projection to middle tibiae. 2.0 - 2.5 mm. terricola Zetterstedt
- Legs extensively blackish. Wings with two broad faint brownish bands indistinctly connected on costa. Male mid femora simple and middle tibiae without apical projection. 1.3-1.75 mm. halidayi Collin
4. Wings with two brown bands separated along whole length. Occiput extensively shining black. One notopleural bristle. 5
- Wings with brown bands broadly connected along costa or wings brownish on anterior half as far as and including tip. Two notopleural bristles. 7
5. Legs blackish brown, only knees and metatarsi paler. Fore and mid femora with double row of strong black bristles along whole length beneath. Wing bands faint beyond cubital vein (R4+5). Radial vein (R2+3) with short appendix on apical part. 3 mm. lundstroemi (Frey)
- Legs less darkened. Fore and mid femora more yellowish with only dark bristly hairs on apical two thirds beneath. Wing bands distinct to hind margin of wing. Radial vein without appendix. 6
6. Wings large and broader, bluntly rounded at tip, radial vein sharply upturned to costa. Legs darker, mid and hind pairs mainly blackish, hind femora all dark. Occiput bearing grey dusting on upper part behind vertex and at sides adjacent to eye margin. 2.0 - 2.5 mm. arrogans (Linnaeus)
- Wings small and narrow, pointed at tip. Radial vein ending at costa in an obtuse angle. Legs mainly yellow, hind femora yellow at base. Occiput entirely shining, only somewhat dulled by greyish dust behind vertex. 1.6 - 2.5 mm. aemula (Loew)
7. Halteres dark brown. Wings with darkened outer two thirds on costal half, including the wing tip. Fore femur black, yellow on basal third. 1.6 - 2.2 mm. halterata (Collin)
- Halteres whitish yellow. Wings with two brown bands broadly connected along costal margin, always leaving wing tip hyaline. 8

8. Head densely grey dusted. Palpi large, yellowish brown with several long brown bristles. Abdomen extensively grey dusted. 2.0 mm acklandi Chvala
- Head shining black or dark brown, occiput faintly dusted. Palpi smaller, dark with dark bristles. Abdomen dusted or shining black. 9
9. Brown wing bands more broadly connected along costa, hyaline middle stripe reaching only to first posterior cell (Cell R5). No hyaline patch in submarginal cell (Cell R3). Fore femur with small black anteroventral bristles. Abdomen dusted in male, more shining in female. Hind femora pale at base. 1.9 - 2.2 mm. costalis (von Roser) (= submorio Collin)
- Hyaline middle stripe reaches as far as submarginal cell (Cell R3), which also has a small hyaline patch. 10
10. Legs paler, hind femora yellow at base. Fore femora with fine pale hairs. Segment 2 of mid tarsi slightly more than half length of metatarsus. Hind margin of male 6th tergite with long dark hairs at middle only. 1.8 - 2.3 mm. connexa Meigen
- Legs darker, hind femora entirely black. Fore femora with small black anteroventral bristles. Segment 2 of mid tarsi nearly as long as metatarsus. Hind margin of male 6th tergite with long dark hairs in each corner. 1.7 - 2.7 mm. morio (Zetterstedt)
11. Hind part of thorax and scutellum with strong black spinose bristles including last two pairs of dorsocentrals and 4-8 strong scutellars (only one pair of dorsocentrals and 2 scutellars strong in the true annulimana which is not known from Britain). Meso- and metasternum between posterior four coxae with long yellowish bristles. Male middle tibiae with a large shovel like projection. Legs mainly black. 2.3 - 3.3 mm. umbrarum Haliday (= annulimana sensu Collin)
- Hind part of thorax and scutellum with normal pale minute bristles only. Meso- and metasternum bare. Male middle tibiae with a small pointed projection. Legs mainly yellowish, fore femora with dark preapical ring in male. 2.0 - 2.6 mm. woodi (Collin)

T. aemula (Loew) is a common species regarded as a form of arrogans by Collin.

T. acklandi Chvala is very local on river gravels in Scotland and Wales. It was described by Chvala (1973) from Scottish specimens.

T. lundstroemi (Frey) was added by Andrewes (1966) on a series from riverside vegetation in Wiltshire.

T. terricola Zetterstedt was added by Allen (1983). It was found on sand at Lydd in East Kent.

### Platypalpus

Nine species of this large genus have been added to bring the British list to 82. The key by Chvala (1975) to the Scandinavian species includes many British species including some of the additions but employs the primary characters in a different order to that in Collin's key making direct comparison difficult. Here the position to which species run

- in Collins key is indicated, so the additions are dealt with in the order in which they would appear in his key.

P. tuomikoskii Chvala

Runs to Couplet 21. It was confused with difficilis Frey (= interjecta Lundbeck of Collin) by Collin (1961). It agrees with it in the dusted thoracic disc but has the arista shorter, about half length of third antennal segment as in nigritarsis but the frons dull as in longicornis which has the arista shorter relative to the third antennal segment. The species of this group may be separated as follows:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Mesonotum polished black at least on posterior third.   | 2  |
| - | Mesonotum entirely grey dusted.   | 3  |
| 2 | Antennal segment 3 at most 3 X long as deep; arista as long as third antennal segment.  | <u>commutatus</u> Strobl (= <u>interpola</u> Collin)                   |
| - | Antennal segment 3 at least 4 X long as deep; arista at most half its length.   | <u>nigritarsis</u> , <u>excisus</u> (see below) and <u>longicornis</u> |
| 3 | Antennal segment 3 almost 4 X long as deep; arista shorter, half as long as third antennal segment; basal antennal segments yellowish brown. Strong bristles on head and thorax brownish or black.    | <u>difficilis</u> Frey (= <u>interjecta</u> Lundbeck)                  |
| - | Antennal segment 3 shorter, at most 3 X long as deep; arista as long as third antennal segment; antennae uniformly blackish brown. Strong bristles on head and thorax yellowish brown to light brown. | <u>tuomikoskii</u> Chvala  |

P. tuomikoskii was added by Smith & Chvala (1976) on the specimens from Barton Mills, Suffolk recorded by Collin (1961) under interjecta.

P. excisus (Becker)

Runs to Couplet 23 - nigritarsis (Fallen), with which it has been confused. P. excisus is widespread but less frequent than nigritarsis. They are separated as follows:

- |   |   |                             |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| - | Hind tibiae of male simple, not strongly curved. Fore coxae of female with only base slightly darkened; mid femora dark at most of apical half above.   | <u>nigritarsis</u> (Fallen) |
| - | Hind tibiae of male curved at middle, with a shallow excision at about middle beneath; slightly darkened near base. Female fore coxae except for tip and mid femora on whole length above darkened. | <u>excisus</u> (Becker)     |

Platypalpus longimanus (Corti)

Runs to Couplet 33. It is separated from the included species, pallipes and macula, as follows:

- |   |  |                           |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| - | Antennal segment 3 very long, about 4 X long as broad at base, with arista little more than half as long at this segment. Pleura mainly shining black with dusting restricted to propleura and anterior and upper margin of mesopleuron. Male with apical segment of front four tarsi conspicuously elongated. | <u>longimanus</u> (Corti) |
|---|--|---------------------------|

- Antennal segment 3 not more than 2.3 X long as broad at base, with arista distinctly longer than this segment. Pleura mainly dusted with only sternopleura extensively polished. Male legs without elongated last tarsal segment.  
pallipes and macula

P. longimanus was added by Smith (1968) on a male from Wiltshire.

Platypalpus inexpectatus Smith & Chvala and P. mikii (Becker)

Both run to Couplet 40 and may be distinguished from the two included species ciliaris and parvicaudus by their largely yellow ground colour, this being black in ciliaris and parvicaudus. They are separated from each other as follows:

- Black ventral bristles on mid femora almost uniformly long, becoming gradually shorter towards tip. Mid tibia with swollen apical half conspicuously velvet brown. Acrostichals irregularly 2- to 4-serial rather long and diverging. Mesonotum blackish brown or with only dark median stripe. Antennae with basal segments yellow. Pleura largely shining.  
mikii (Becker)
- Mid femora with bristles in posterior row especially long on basal half and conspicuous white pubescence between rows; bristles shorter, and rows closer together without white pubescence on apical half (as ciliaris). Legs yellow with only last tarsal segment of all legs black. Acrostichals minute, 4- to 6-serial. Mesonotum yellow with broad dark median stripe. Antennae black. Pleura mainly dusted.  
inexpectatus (Smith & Chvala)

P. mikii was added by Andrewes (1978) from woods near Salisbury; Cole (1985) added a record from Durham.

P. inexpectatus was described from a Devon male by Smith & Chvala (1976).

Platypalpus pygialis (Chvala)

Runs to Couplet 47 - albiseta (Panzer), of which it was described as a variety by Collin (1961) on genital characters. Chvala (1973a) validated as a good species. It is thus separated from albiseta as follows:

- Antennae smaller with a longer white arista. Male genitalia much larger with conspicuously elongated left cercus and lamellar appendages overlapping lamellae.

A single male from Upton, Norfolk was recorded by Collin (1961).

Platypalpus pallidiseta Kovalev

Runs to Couplet 63, agreeing with leucothrix in the slender white arista but differs from it in having a uniformly dusted occiput. The legs are yellow except the tarsi (which are progressively darkened apically) in the female but in the male (not yet found in Britain) distinct markings are present on the legs.

Cole (1985) took one female at Earith gravel pits, Cambs.

Platypalpus analis (Meigen)

Runs to Couplet 129. It may be distinguished from pallidiventris and longiseta (= extricata of Collin) by the following characters:

- Acrostichals tri- to quadriserial. Abdomen yellowish. Polished sternopleural spot rather small. A larger species, 3.5 - 4.0 mm. analys (Meigen)
- Acrostichals biserial. Abdomen shining black. A large anterior polished spot on sternopleura. Smaller species, 2.5 - 3.0 mm. pallidiventris and longiseta

P. analis was added by Chvala (1975) and by Smith & Chvala (1976) on a single record from Slindon, Sussex.

#### Platypalpus articulatoides Chvala

Runs to Couplet 148 and is distinguished from articulatus (Macquart) by the following characters:

- All tarsi with distinct brownish annulations or extensively darkened. Male genitalia with left lamella almost bare, Without long hairs on its outer (left) margin. articulatus (Macquart)
- Fore tarsi with very sharp black annulations; posterior four tarsi pale except for dark terminal segment. Male genitalia with left lamella bearing long outstanding pale hairs on its outer (left) margin. articulatoides (Frey)

Perry (1985) added articulatoides from Quy Fen, Cambs.

#### Euthyneura

Cole (1964) recorded a male reared from rotten wood in Oxfordshire which was thought following examination by Collin to be albipennis (Zetterstedt) but its identity has remained uncertain. Cole is soon to publish on its identity.

A female possibly of the same species has been taken at Windsor Forest, Berks on 3.vi.1980 by P J Chandler. This specimen has the wings milk white, proboscis longer than head, thoracic bristles light brown, acrostichals 2- to 3-serial, dorsocentrals uniserial, legs mainly yellow with posterior half of hind femur and hind tibia brown, and hind femora with series of long bristles along entire length above and below.

#### Rhamphomyia

R. (Pararhamphomyia) marginata (Fabricius) has been added by Chandler (1973). It has now been found on several occasions in woods in East Kent, mainly by lepidopterists in their light traps. It may develop in pine wood so it is conceivably introduced. R. marginata may be recognised as follows:

Male. Runs to Couplet 63 in Collin's key and may be distinguished from the included species murina and albipennis as follows:

A larger species, nearly 5 mm long. Side lamellae of genitalia narrowed apically, longer than broad. Upper lamellae without spines on inner margin. Discal cell formed more as murina.

Female. Runs to Couplet 77 - R. simplex in Collin's key:

- Wings greatly broadened apically with distinct brown border, extended more faintly around hind margin to wing base. marginata (Fabricius)

- Wings normally shaped without brown markings. simplex Zetterstedt

### Hilara

One species, H. pilospectinata Strobl, has been added by Andrewes (1966). It runs in Collin's key to Couplet 130 which includes only females. It is close to the species included in Couplet 134, manicata and rejecta but differs in having darker legs with only the knees yellowish.

Male. Front metatarsi short haired above (as manicata). Hind tibia with 2 rows of dorsal bristles, one as long as tibial width, other including about 6 slightly wavy bristles 2-3 X tibial diameter (only one dorsal bristle in manicata and rejecta).  
Female. (Not yet found in Britain). Said to have similar bristling on hind tibia.

H. pilospectinata was found by the River Nadder in Wiltshire.

### Heleodromia

A second species, H. irwini was described by Wagner (1985). It is known only from Bridge of Brown and Dorback Burn, Inverness. Only males of the two species can be reliably separated at present.

- Tergite 8 of male of normal size and shape without a dorsal prolongation. immaculata Haliday
- Tergite 8 with a wide basal incision and a distal prolongation which is deeply and narrowly bifid. irwini Wagner

### Nomenclatural changes from names used by Collin (1961)

#### Present Name

#### Name used by Collin

Chersodromia alata (Walker, 1835)	C. difficilis Lundbeck, 1910
Tachydromia Meigen, 1803	Sicodus Rafinesque, 1815
T. costalis (von Roser, 1840)	S. submorio Collin, 1961
T. umbrarum Haliday, 1833	S. annulimana Meigen, 1822
Platypalpus Macquart, 1827	Tachydromia Meigen, 1803
P. cryptospina (Frey, 1909)	T. tantula Collin, 1926
P. difficilis (Frey, 1907)	T. intejecta Lundbeck, 1910
P. longiseta (Zetterstedt, 1842)	T. extricata Collin, 1926
P. commutatus (Strobl, 1893)	T. interpola Collin, 1961
P. pallidicoxa (Frey, 1913)	T. agilella Collin, 1926
P. pseudociliaris (Strobl, 1910)	T. calcarata Collin, 1926
Symballophthalmus pictipes (Becker, 1889)	S. pollinosus Collin, 1961
S. fuscitarsis (Zetterstedt, 1859)	S. scapularis Collin, 1961
Hilara clavipes (Harris, 1780)	H. matrona Haliday, 1833
Weidemannia rhynchops (Nowicki, 1868)	W. rhynchops s. insularis Collin, 1927

Note Hilara clavipes is more likely to have been curtisi Collin as it was described from southern England, while matrona is a northern and western species.

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